

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1950

Introduced by Assembly Member Campos

February 19, 2014

An act to add Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 52360) to Chapter 9 of Part 28 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education Code, relating to career education.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

AB 1950, as introduced, Campos. Career education: Career Education Incentive Program.

Existing law establishes a system of public elementary and secondary schools in this state, and authorizes school districts throughout the state to provide instruction to pupils. Existing law establishes the California Community Colleges as one of the segments of public postsecondary education in this state, and authorizes community college districts throughout the state to provide instruction to students at the campuses they operate. Existing law establishes various career education programs involving participation by public elementary and secondary schools, community colleges, and other governmental entities.

This bill would express legislative intent to create incentives for school districts, county offices of education, charter schools, and community college districts to establish regional career education consortia for the purpose of coordinating, delivering, and implementing high-quality and cost-efficient career and college preparation programs in kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive.

The bill would establish the Career Education Incentive Program under the administration of the State Department of Education. The bill would authorize school districts, county offices of education, charter

schools, and community college districts to establish career education consortia. The bill would specify criteria for the receipt and expenditure of the state funding to be allocated to these consortia.

The bill would require the Superintendent of Public Instruction to collaborate with specified stakeholders for the purposes of developing an evaluation instrument for the program.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: no.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. It is the intent of the Legislature to accomplish
2 all of the following:
- 3 (a) Create incentives for school districts, county offices of
4 education, charter schools, and community college districts to
5 establish regional career education consortia for the purpose of
6 coordinating, delivering, and implementing high-quality and
7 cost-efficient career and college preparation programs in
8 kindergarten and grades 1 to 12, inclusive.
- 9 (b) Promote an integrated career education infrastructure that
10 builds on the broad range of proven career education approaches
11 including, but not limited to, regional occupational centers and
12 programs, linked learning partnerships, California Partnership
13 Academies, agricultural vocational education, specialized
14 secondary programs, and career pathways programs, each of which
15 has improved pupil academic achievement, reduced dropout rates,
16 increased attendance rates, and resulted in higher rates of college
17 enrollment.
- 18 (c) Establish fiscal incentives for school agencies to offer, or
19 continue to offer, high quality career and college-ready programs
20 that are vital in engaging pupils and helping them prepare for the
21 transition to higher education and the workforce.
- 22 (d) Appropriate two hundred fifty million dollars (\$250,000,000)
23 in the annual Budget Act for the 2015–16 fiscal year for the Career
24 Education Incentive Program (Article 3.5 (commencing with
25 Section 52360) of Chapter 9 of Part 28 of Division 4 of Title 2 of
26 the Education Code) to provide one-to-one matching grant funding
27 to eligible career education consortia. A career education
28 consortium may be composed of school districts, county offices
29 of education, charter schools, and community college districts.

1 SEC. 2. Article 3.5 (commencing with Section 52360) is added
2 to Chapter 9 of Part 28 of Division 4 of Title 2 of the Education
3 Code, to read:

4
5 Article 3.5. Career Education Incentive Program
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7 52360. (a) A career education consortium may be composed
8 of school districts, county offices of education, charter schools,
9 and community college districts.

10 (b) For purposes of participating in the Career Education
11 Incentive Program established by this article, a career education
12 consortium shall enter into an agreement among the local
13 educational agencies participating in the consortium for the purpose
14 of developing and maintaining career education programs aligned
15 with California Career Technical Education and Common Core
16 State Standards.

17 (c) The funds appropriated in the annual Budget Act shall be
18 available to career education consortia as a matching grant to
19 accomplish any of the following:

20 (1) In any of grades kindergarten to grades 1 to 5, inclusive, or
21 kindergarten to grades 1 to 7, inclusive, career academies, funds
22 may be expended for career awareness curriculum focused
23 activities and projects that center on exposing pupils to career
24 opportunities that include, but are not necessarily limited to,
25 researching careers, job shadowing, visiting local industries, and
26 guest speakers.

27 (2) In grades 7 and 8, funds may be expended for career
28 exploration activities, including, but not necessarily limited to,
29 summer and winter career camps, after school precareer
30 preparation, career mentoring programs, and visits to a community
31 college campus to explore career pathway programs and career
32 mentoring programs.

33 (3) In any of grades 9 to 12, inclusive, funds may be expended
34 for career preparation activities, including, but not necessarily
35 limited to, developing programs of study in career pathways, career
36 counseling and mentoring programs, career portfolios, and career
37 days.

38 (d) For its funding match, a career education consortium may
39 use revenues from state, local, or private funding sources.

1 52361. (a) Notwithstanding any other law, funds allocated
2 pursuant to this article may be expended only to ensure the
3 development and maintenance of a high-quality career education
4 program.

5 (b) As a condition of receipt of funds pursuant to this section,
6 the governing board of each career education consortium shall do
7 all of the following:

8 (1) Develop a plan for establishing a sequence of courses.

9 (2) Certify to the department that each sequence of courses
10 specified in the plan required by this subdivision has been
11 developed.

12 (3) Report each new sequence of courses and each modification
13 to existing sequences to the department no later than September
14 1 of the fiscal year in which the changes are implemented.

15 (4) Certify to the department that each course within a sequence
16 is aligned to the California Career Technical Education Standards
17 for grades 7 to 12, inclusive.

18 (5) Certify to the department that each course, where
19 appropriate, is aligned to the Common Core State Standards.

20 (c) A career education consortium receiving funds pursuant to
21 this article shall collect and report data as required by the
22 department and through each participating local education agency's
23 locally developed local control and accountability plan.

24 (d) To determine the quality and effectiveness of a career
25 education course of study or sequence of career education courses,
26 the Superintendent shall incorporate into appropriate state adopted
27 accountability measures a metric based on career-ready standards
28 adopted pursuant to the federal Elementary and Secondary
29 Education Act (20 U.S.C. Sec. 6301 et seq.) and program quality
30 indicators contained in the California State Plan for Career
31 Technical Education.

32 (e) Accountability measures under this article may include the
33 rates at which pupils complete a course of study or sequence of
34 career technical education courses that provide the skills and
35 knowledge necessary to attain entry-level employment in business
36 or industry, or to pursue postsecondary education after those pupils
37 graduate from high school.

38 (f) The Superintendent shall develop an evaluation instrument
39 to evaluate the programs within each career education consortium
40 commencing with the 2015–16 school year, and annually thereafter.

1 52362. The Superintendent shall collaborate with stakeholders,
2 including, but not necessarily limited to, representatives from
3 school districts, county offices of education, community colleges,
4 charter schools, career education joint powers authority consortia,
5 local workforce investment board members, and business and
6 industry advisory board members for the purposes of developing
7 an evaluation instrument for the program established under this
8 article. The completed evaluation instrument shall be reviewed by
9 an independent local review council composed of representatives
10 selected by the Superintendent.

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